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FM AMEMBASSY ASTANA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4319
INFO RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE 1019
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
RUCNCLS/SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE
RUEAORC/US CUSTOMS SERVICE WASHDC
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
RULSJGA/COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC 0507
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC 0592
RHEFAAA/DIA WASHDC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
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RHMFIUU/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ASTANA 000052

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR SCA/CEN
DEPT FOR ISN/ECC YWONG, ACHURCH, JHARTSHORN, SROBINSON
DEPT FOR ISN/ECC-AMT LSPRINGER
DEPT FOR EUR/ACE DFISCHER
DEPT FOR SCA/RA JSPILSBURY
CBP/INA FOR SBAKER AND BPICKETT
USDOE/NNSA CWALKER, TPERRY AND EDESCHLER
DOC FOR DCREED
USCG FOR SHABETIMICHAEL
AMEMBASSY BERLIN FOR CUSTOMS ATTACHE
AMEMBASSY TASHKENT, BISHKEK, BAKU, DUSHANBE AND ASHGABAT FOR EXBS
ADVISORS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [ETTC](#) [MNUC](#) [KNNP](#) [KSTC](#) [KZ](#)

SUBJECT: KAZAKHSTAN: EXBS ADVISOR'S REPORTING CABLE (DECEMBER 2008)

I. BROAD ITEMS OF INTEREST TO ADVISORS AND AGENCY MANAGERS:

11. Starting January 1, a new, simplified customs control procedure has been implemented that is designed to reduce administrative barriers for imports and exports. The list of documents required at the border has been shortened, and processing times reduced. Kazakhstani customs officials will now be in charge of transport, veterinary, sanitary, and epidemiological control, making export and import operations a "one-stop shopping" experience.

II. COMPLETED ACTIONS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD

1A. SITE ASSESSMENTS AND MEETINGS CONDUCTED

12. On November 18, the EXBS program manager met with Colonel Baimukhanbetov, Head of the Customs Control Department for Almaty city. Discussions focused on the current ability of Almaty International Airport customs officers to conduct searches of aircraft on the ground for hazardous cargo, particularly radiological materials, and how they conduct inspections of commercial air-cargo, with an emphasis on countering the cross-border proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, conventional arms, and related materials. Colonel Baimukhanbetov requested EXBS assistance in providing personal radiation pagers (PRDs), radioisotope identifiers (RIIDs), radiation survey meters, vehicles, and communications and x-ray systems.

13. On December 10, the EXBS program manager and Colonel Tanalinov of Kazakhstan's Border Guard Service visited the Alkor manufacturing company in Almaty at the invitation of the company's director to view the newly-completed portable shelter complex. One portable

shelter complex was made from three 40-foot shipping containers. Three building units are finished in all respects, including flooring, interior wood-paneled walls, and ceilings, all as requested in the statement-of-work. All exterior ferrous metal is primed and painted blue. The whole building and all of its rooms will be installed under one single roof, and will occupy approximately 90 square meters. The modular shelter's wall panels are bolted to the frame and are easily removable, since the shelters are designed to be moved or transported as often as necessary. Colonel Tanalinov requested that Director Nestertsov deliver the portable shelter complex to the Border Guards' warehouse in Almaty upon completion of each portable shelter complex. The Border Guards will keep them at this facility until all complexes are completed, inspected, and accepted, and then Alkor will ship them to the Border Guards' station at Beineu in Mangistau oblast.

¶4. On December 18, the EXBS program manager had a meeting with Sarah MacDonald-Fendrich and Michael Curry of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation and David Smith of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. The meeting participants discussed the Department of State's Preventing Nuclear Smuggling Program (PNSP), which plans to assist Kazakhstan in improving its capabilities to combat nuclear smuggling by conducting a bilateral PNSP exercise in Astana in February. EXBS provided Sarah MacDonald-Fendrich, Michael Curry, and David Smith with requested information. These discussions highlighted U.S. inter-agency cooperation on non-proliferation at post.

¶B. TRAINING DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

¶5. None

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¶C. EQUIPMENT DELIVERED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

¶6. None

¶D. IMMINENT TRAINING OR EQUIPMENT STATUS UPDATE

¶7. None

¶E. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN EXPORT CONTROLS, NONPROLIFERATION, OR RELATED BORDER SECURITY

¶8. None

¶F. CASPIAN SECURITY INFORMATION

¶9. None

III. RED FLAG ISSUES.

¶10. None

HOAGLAND